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SYN 09/804408

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ogle, et al. Examiner: D. Naff  
Serial No.: 09/804408 Group Art Unit: 1651  
Filed: March 12, 2001 Docket No.: 01610.0048-US-01  
Title: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR CROSSLINKING TISSUE

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 3, 2003.

Hallie A. Finucane  
Name

*Hallie A. Finucane*  
Signature

**Amendment and Response Under  
37 C.F.R. §1.111**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231



Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated October 2, 2002, setting a three month shortened statutory period for response.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

A clean copy of the amended and new claims is included below. A marked up copy of the entire set of claims is included in Appendix A.

Please amend claims 34 and 36 and add new claims 38-43 as follows.

B1 34. (Amended) A tissue comprising modified sites and bridge molecules, wherein said bridge molecules are bonded to two or more modified sites in the tissue.

B2 36. (Amended) A method of crosslinking tissue having modified sites comprising treating said tissue with a bridge composition comprising bridge molecules wherein the bridge molecules bond to two or more modified sites in the tissue.